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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

519TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION (FIELD ARMY)

APO 96307

INDEXED

AVGJ-BCI

28 November 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966.

(RCS 08FCR 65) (U)

TO: Commanding Officer  
525th Military Intelligence Group  
APO 96307

(U) The following report is submitted in accordance with USARV Regulation 870-2, dated 19 July 1966.

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES (C)

1. (C) During the reporting period remaining elements of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion (FldA) (Second Increment) closed in-country, except for Packets D-1-B (Technical Intelligence) and E-1-C (Order of Battle) totalling 15 Off, 0 EM (AGG 15) and 33 Off, 2 EM (AGG 35) personnel respectively. The D-1-B Packet will be partially filled by in-country resources with the remainder to be shipped at some future date. The E-1-C Packet is expected to close in-country in early December 1966. The Battalion is presently organized as depicted in Inclosure #1.

2. (C) A draft revision of TUSA General Order #39, dated 25 January 1966, reorganizing the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion (FldA), was completed in two (2) parts and forwarded to Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGB-PA, on 21 and 27 October 1966, respectively. An electrical message from Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, to Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific, recommended the reorganization of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion (FldA) based on the aforementioned draft revision. Until this proposed reorganization is effected, the primary problem facing the Battalion concerns utilization of personnel in support of the unit mission in Vietnam. A solution from higher authority may be forthcoming prior to 1 January 1967.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966  
(RCS CSFOR-65) (U) (Cont)

3. (U) The Battalion continued to function primarily in an administrative support type role by providing messing, billeting, training, and transportation for assigned personnel. A one-hundred (100) man barracks was completed in September 1966 and another is under construction. The Battalion engaged in weapons familiarization firing on 15, 22, and 27 August 1966. The Battalion S-2 and S-3 sections were combined on 15 August 1966 due to a consolidation of operational intelligence functions at the 525th Military Intelligence Group, the parent unit.

## SECTION II PART I

### OBSERVATIONS (LESSONS LEARNED) (C)

#### LOGISTICS

(U) ITEM: Authorization of Rifle, 7.62MM, M-14, for Advisors.

(U) DISCUSSION: There are many G-2 advisors from this unit with ARVN units. All of these ARVN units are using the Carbine, Cal 30, as their basic weapon. A supply of ammunition and repair parts for these weapons is maintained at the unit level. The basic weapon authorized for all advisors is the M-14, Rifle. This authorization creates a supply and maintenance problem which seems unnecessary. The problem could be quite easily overcome.

(U) OBSERVATION: The present practice requires resupply of ammunition and repair parts from this organization. This entails a request for resupply from the advisors and subsequent shipment to fill the request. A time lag of a few weeks is often involved in the accomplishment of resupply. USARV form 47-R was submitted on 22 November 1966 requesting the authorization of the carbines.

(U) ITEM: Support to G-2 Advisor Personnel.

(U) DISCUSSION: One of the major missions of this organization is to give limited supply support to G-2 advisors at Corps, Division, and Sector levels. Limited support includes only TOE and TA 50-901 authorizations. Expendable supplies and PCS type items are presently the responsibility of the MACV supply organization.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966  
(RCS CSFOR-65) (U) (Cont)

(U) OBSERVATION: The supply priority of the 519th MI Bn is based primarily on the functions supported in the Saigon area. As a result the supplies urgently needed to support the "field" organization are not received as timely as they should be. In addition, supplies received at the organization in Saigon must then be transhipped out to the using activities. Again a delay is built in.

OTHER

7 (C) ITEM: Excessive crowded conditions on Compound #1, located at 32/1 Nguyen Van Hoc, Gia Dinh, Saigon, Vietnam (Coordinates XS 87069646).

(C) DISCUSSION: The facilities and utilities of this compound are now taxed to full capacity due to the number of personnel billeted there. These conditions have been alleviated to some degree by the construction of new barracks, however, lack of space precludes expanding current facilities. (A request has been forwarded through channels to the Commanding General, MACV, requesting that the building located on lot #226-234, Phunto Hoa, Gia Dinh, RVN, be leased for utilization by Company A, this battalion). In addition, Compound #1 is physically located too far from supported activities necessitating extensive bus travel, a loss of man hours, and exposing of personnel to terrorist activities.

(C) OBSERVATION: These conditions are not conducive to high troop morale and overall efficiency.

SECTION II  
PART II

RECOMMENDATIONS (C)

LOGISTICS

> 1. (U) Advisors should be authorized to use the Carbine, Cal 30, in lieu of the M-14 Rifle. This authorization would facilitate the resupply of ammunition and repair parts directly from the ARVN units.

> 2. (U) [Authorize a higher priority for requisitions submitted by elements of this organization for G-2 advisor support.] Authorize one additional personnel space per Corps area for the primary purpose of Supply Support Coordinator. Since problems are also encountered in personnel actions, promotions, pay, etc; this authorization could also be justified in the administrative area. The position would then be classified as Administration and Supply Support Coordinator. The recommended grade would be 1LT.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966  
(RCS CSFOR-65) (U) (Cont)

When the position of Administration and Supply Support Coordinator is authorized, this organization could provide supply support beyond TOE and TA 50-901.

OTHER

(C) An additional area should be procured and facilities constructed to handle the overflow on Compound #1. No additional personnel should be assigned to Compound #1, and if possible, a new location should be obtained capable of adequately handling the entire battalion, preferably situated in a secure area and closer to the units supported by this battalion.

1 Incl  
as

CYRIL P. METOSH  
LTC, AIS  
Commanding

THIS IS A TRUE COPY:

*Robert L. Pedersen*  
ROBERT L. PEDERSEN  
1LT, Infantry  
S3 Admin Off

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AVGJ-HQADM (28 Nov 66)

1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966  
(RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, 525th Military Intelligence Group, APO 96307 6 February 1967

TO: Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVC-DH, APO 96307

This Headquarters concurs with recommendations of 519th Military Intelligence Battalion, APO 96307.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

*for Joe C. Simlock II cgt*  
W. A. FREEMAN  
MAJ, AIS  
Adjutant



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AVHGC-DH (28 Nov 66) 2d Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending  
31 October 1966 (RGS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96307  
22 FEB 1967

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-OT  
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 October 1966 from Headquarters, 519th Military Intelligence Battalion (Field Army) as indorsed.

2. Pertinent comments are as follows:

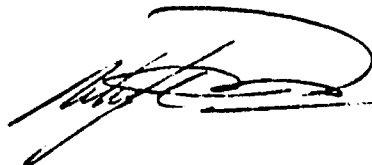
a. Reference Paragraph 2, Section 1, Page 1: A recommendation for reorganization was forwarded to USARPAC as stated by Letter, AVHGB, Headquarters, USARV, 3 November 1966, subject: Reorganization of Unit. To date, no reply has been received.

b. Reference Part I, Section II, Item: Authorization of Rifle 7.62 mm, M-14, for Advisors, Page 2; and Paragraph 1, Part II, Section II, Page 3: This headquarters has returned the authorization request for the M-1 Carbine and recommended that instead the unit submit a modification table under provisions of paragraph 22, AR 310-34.

c. Reference Paragraph 2, Section II, Part II, Page 3: Under MILSTRIP, assignment of requisition priority designator is a function of the unit commander and is assigned commensurate with unit mission and urgency of requirement.

d. Reference Other, Part II, Section II, Page 4: Elements of the 525th Military Intelligence Group and 125th Military Intelligence Group that are presently located in Compound 1 are scheduled to be relocated out of the Saigon area as part of a plan to reduce the troop strength in Saigon. When this move is accomplished, the situation referred to should be alleviated.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



**R. J. THORNTON**  
1st Lt. AGC  
Asst Adjutant General

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GPOP-OT(28 Nov 66)

3d Ind (U)

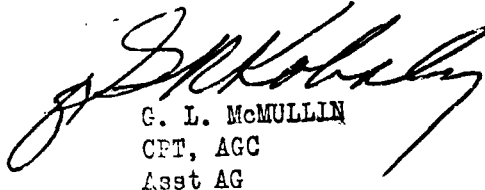
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending  
31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR 65), HQ 519th MI Bn (Fld Army)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 18 MAR 1967

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the  
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

1. This headquarters concurs in the basic report as indorsed.
2. Reference paragraph 2a, 2d Indorsement, Headquarters USARPAC responded to the reorganization letter by message GPPE-MD 3494, DTG 100248Z February 1967. Latest reference to reorganization of the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion is contained in USARV message AVHGC-DT 12827, DTG 010524Z March 1967 which states that the 525th Military Intelligence Group is presently preparing an MTOE to reorganize the entire group and the organization of 519th Battalion will be changed considerably from the previously requested organization.

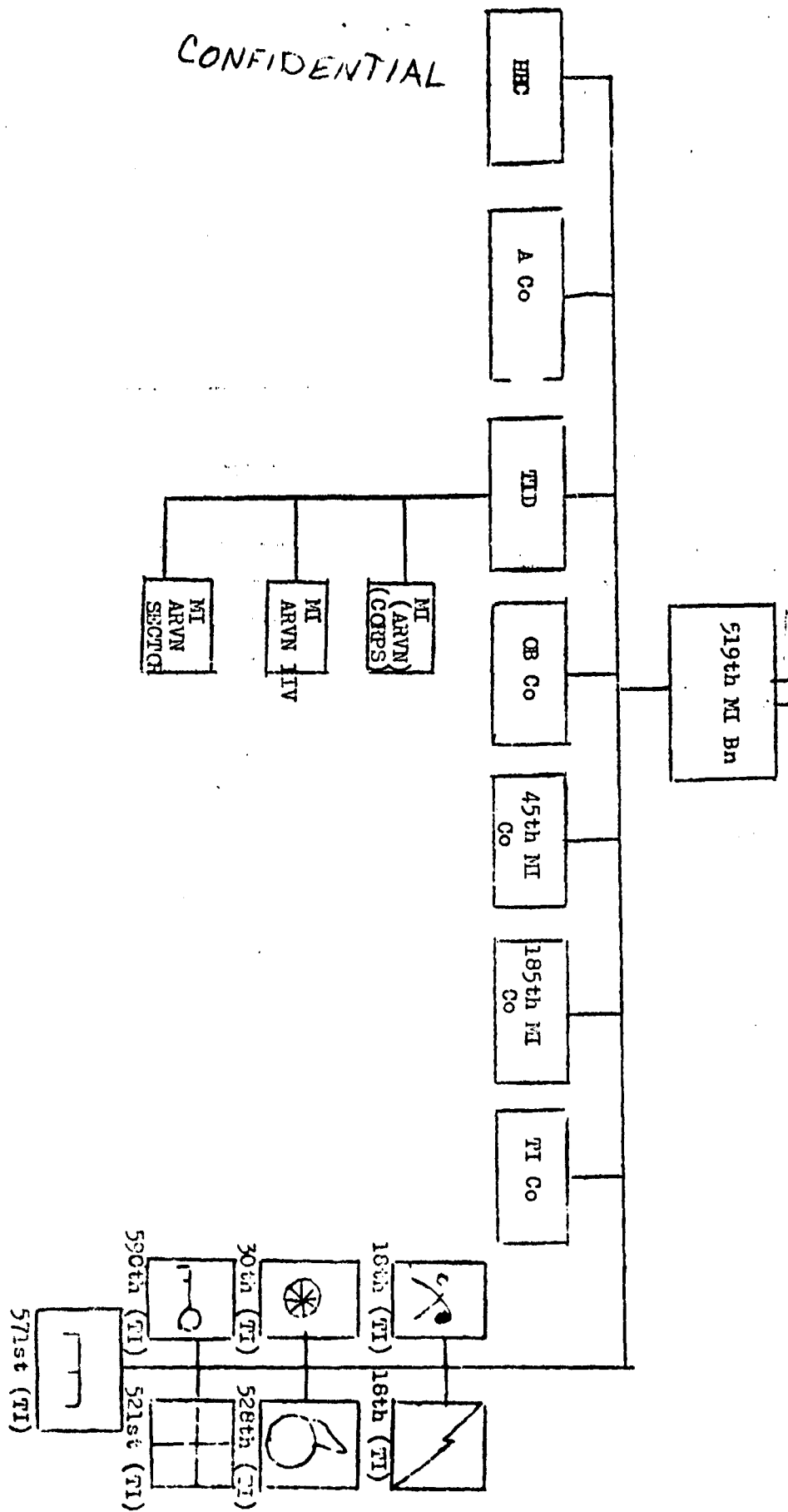
FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

  
G. L. McMULLIN  
CPT, AGC  
Asst AG

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INCLOSURE # 1

Rec 1

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